

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
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DEPT PLEASE PASS TO NAM COLLECTIVE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PORG, CE

SUBJ: TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION AT BELGRADE NON-ALIGNED MEETING

1. FOREIGN MINISTER A.C.S. HAMEED HELD PRESS CONFERENCE JULY 16 PRIOR TO DEPARTURE FOR BELGRADE MEETING. HE TOLD PRESS THAT FOREIGN MINISTERS WOULD DISCUSS YUGOSLAV PROPOSAL FOR MECHANISM TO SETTLE BILATERAL DISPUTES AMONG NAM MEMBERS. MECHANISM OUTLINED BY HAMEED IS IF PARTY TO A DISPUTE OR ONE-THIRD OF COORDINATING BUREAU MEMBERSHIP REQUESTED A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BUREAU, BUREAU WOULD MEET AND APPOINT AD HOC COMMITTEE TO ATTEMPT TO SETTLE DISPUTE. HE SAID IT REMAINED TO BE SEEN WHETHER PROPOSAL WOULD COMMAND CONFIDENCE OF ENTIRE NAM MEMBERSHIP.

2. HAMEED REFERRED TO ANOTHER IMPORTANT ISSUE TO BE DISCUSSED AT BELGRADE BUT DID NOT ELABORATE. HE SAID THERE WILL BE DISCUSSION OF WHETHER PROCESS OF TAKING DECISION AT COMMITTEE OR PLENARY LEVEL BY CONSENSUS SHOULD BE ALTERED.

3. COMMENAC HAMEED AND OTHERS HAVE MADE SEVERAL STATEMENTS
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OVER PAST FEW MONTHS ABOUT NEED FOR NAM TO SETTLE DISPUTES AMONG MEMBERS. HOWEVER, THIS IS FIRST INDICATION THAT WE HAVE SEEN THAT YUGOSLAVS HAVE CONCRETE PROPOSAL IN MIND. IT IS ALSO THE FIRST TIME WE HAVE HAD INDICATION OF POSSIBLE SRI LANKAN DISSATISFACTION WITH CONSENSUS METHOD OF REACHING DECISION IN NAM. HERETOFORE, SRI LANKA HAS SEEMED CONTENT TO BE ABLE TO FLOW WITH THE CONSENSUS ON CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES.

WRIGGINS

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED TO NAM COLLECTIVE.

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